

(Washington, DC) Today, Congressman Alcee L. Hastings (D-Miramar) introduced a House Concurrent Resolution expressing Congress's support of the goals and ideals of National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day. This year marks the 10th anniversary of National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day, which is observed on December 21, 2010.
(Please find attached a copy of this resolution).

"Winter is a notoriously difficult time of year for homeless people," said Hastings, who serves as the Co-Founder and Co-Chairman of the Congressional Caucus on Homelessness. "Furthermore, the spirit of the holiday season provides an opportunity for promoting compassion and concern for all, especially the homeless."

On or around the longest night of the year, December 21, the National Coalition for the Homeless and National Health Care for the Homeless Council hold memorial services for homeless individuals who have died from causes related to their homelessness. Throughout the state of Florida, this important day is being recognized, along with over 200 other local municipalities, organizations, and statewide organizations throughout the United States. With the support of the National Coalition for the Homeless, National Consumer Advisory Board, and National Health Care for the Homeless Council; National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day brings attention to the tragedy of homelessness.

"Homelessness, however, is not just a local issue; it is a national problem that beckons national attention," said Hastings.

Hastings' resolution encourages state and local governments, the President, media, and the general public to support the goals and ideals of National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day as well as reaffirms our country's commitment to helping those less fortunate members of society and acknowledges the efforts of those who currently are.

"A national memorial day will ensure that we keep the problem in perspective," further noted Hastings. "Through all the statistics on homelessness, it's easy to forget that numbers correspond to actual individuals with lives and families."

"We must remember their lives—men, women, and children—and we must remember why they died."

Joining Hastings as original co-sponsors are (15) Representatives Eddie Bernice Johnson, Judy Biggert, Kathy Castor, Steve Cohen, John Conyers, Jr., Elijah E. Cummings, Geoff Davis, Ted Deutch, Barney Frank, Raúl M. Grijalva, Luis V. Gutiérrez, Eleanor Holmes Norton, Chellie Pingree, Debbie Wasserman Schultz, and Lynn Woolsey.

Congressman Alcee L. Hastings is Vice Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, a senior member of the House Rules Committee, and Co-Chairman of the U.S. Helsinki Commission.

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 [National Homeless Persons Memorial Day Resolution.pdf](#)